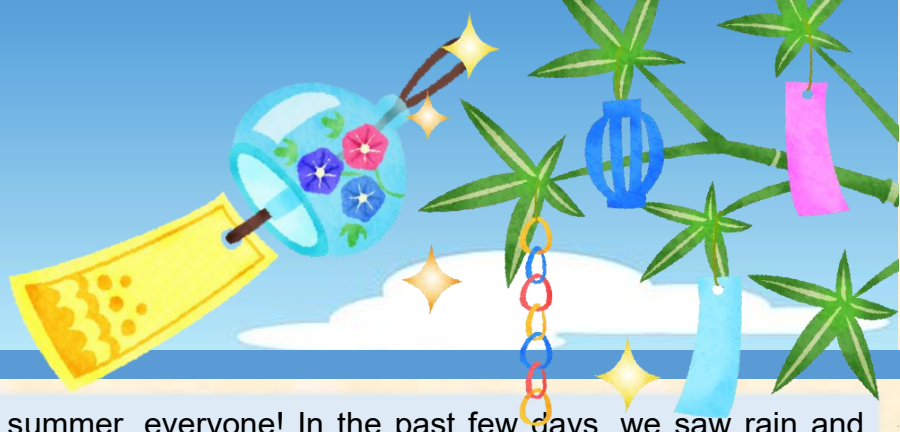


# JULY

Vol. 4

LANGUAGE CENTER NEWSLETTER



We're in the middle of the rainy season and summer, everyone! In the past few days, we saw rain and sunshine alternate. It's getting more **humid**. Can you feel it? Despite the not-so-great weather, there are a few things we can look forward to this month. Two of them are the *Tanabata* and *Tenno* Festivals of the neighboring cities Ichinomiya and Tsushima.

(*humid* /'hju:.mɪd/ - 蒸し暑い)

## OWARI TSUSHIMA TENNO MATSURI

The 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month will see the return of the usual *Tenno Matsuri* activities. *Owari Tsushima Tenno Matsuri* is a National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Asset and one of the 33 Japanese festivals included in the "Yama, Hoko and Yatai Float Festivals" of Japan, which is in the Representative List of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage for Humanity.



*Yoimatsuri*, Night Festival (Saturday night)



*Asamatsuri*, Morning Festival (Sunday morning)

## ICHINOMIYA TANABATA

Ichinomiya's *Tanabata* Festival, which is among the biggest in the country, is from July 27 to July 30 this year. *Tanabata* is based on the legendary characters of *Orihime* and *Hikoboshi*, who are often associated with textiles. Since the city is also known for its textile industry, the festival is aptly called "Textile Thanksaiving Ichinomiya Star Festival".



Prepare your light summer *kimono* (*yukata*) for the last two weekends of July! Have fun with your family and friends.

## WRITING HOPES AND WISHES ON TANZAKU IN ENGLISH

*Tanabata*, or Star Festival, falls on the 7<sup>th</sup> month of the lunar calendar. Some regions of Japan celebrate it on the 7th of July while others do it in the following month. One popular *Tanabata* custom is to write one's hopes and wishes on a piece of paper called *tanzaku* and hang that on a bamboo tree in the hope of them coming true. What would you write?

### I want [noun]...

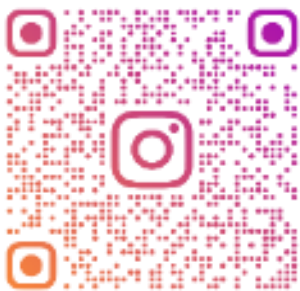
I want a new computer. = 新しいパソコンがほしい。

### I wish/want to [verb]...

I want to study abroad. = 留学したい。

### I hope to [verb]...

I hope to make many friends. = 友達がたくさんできますように。



@RACHELSENGLISH

### RECOMMENDATION: RACHEL'S ENGLISH

With 4.96 million subscribers, *Rachel's English* is easily one of the most popular YouTube channels for those studying English as a second or foreign language. She specializes in American English pronunciation and uploads videos every single week, so you will never run out of new "lessons" after **binge-watching** many or all of her previously uploaded videos. Do visit her homepage on YouTube. She is also on Instagram, uploading short-format videos.

(*binge-watching* /'bɪndʒ ,wɒtʃɪŋ/ 一気見)

## FUN "QUIZ"

1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

Open the refrigerator, put the giraffe in and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.

2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Open the refrigerator, take the giraffe out, put the elephant in and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the effects of your actions.

3. The Lion King is holding an animal meeting, all the animals attend except one. Which animal does not attend?

It's the elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. This tests your memory.

4. There is a river you must cross. But it is inhabited by crocodiles. How do you manage it?

You swim across. All the crocodiles are attending the animal meeting! This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.

(*inhabit* 棲む)

**How did you do?**